

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 is amended herein. Claim 9 is to be canceled. Please note that all claims currently pending in the referenced application are shown below. Please enter these claims as amended. Upon entry, this listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of reducing blood urea nitrogen concentration in a subject's serum, the method comprising:

administering to the subject a composition comprising an oligopeptide having activity in reducing blood urea nitrogen concentration in the subject's serum as determined by a mouse renal ischemia reperfusion test,

said oligopeptide comprising the sequence QGV or MTRV (SEQ ID NO:1), wherein said oligopeptide is from three (3) to twelve (12) amino acids in length.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the subject is undergoing acute renal failure.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the oligopeptide consists of AQGV (SEQ ID NO:2).

4. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the composition is administered to the subject parenterally.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the composition is administered to the subject orally.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the composition consists essentially of oligopeptide and PBS.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the oligopeptide is of synthetic origin.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 3 wherein the oligopeptide of the composition is administered to the patient intravenously in an amount of from about 0.25 to about 10 mg/kg body mass of the subject.

9. Canceled.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the composition consists essentially of from one to three different oligopeptides.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the subject is undergoing persistent oliguria.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the subject's kidneys are not producing more than $\frac{1}{2}$ ml urine per hour per kilogram body mass of the subject.

13. (Original) The method according to claim 10 wherein the subject has a serum potassium level greater than 6.5 mmol per liter serum.